

Status of the Columbia Basin Restoration Program and its Implications for Idaho

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The Columbia River Restoration Act amends the Clean Water Act to require the Environmental Protection Agency to establish a restoration program specifically focused on reducing toxics in the Columbia Basin. The act recognizes a lasting legacy of toxic contaminants in the basin, as well as the health and environmental harms resulting from these pollutants.

The act specifically requires the Environmental Protection Agency to establish a collaborative, stakeholder-based working group to identify and prioritize toxic reduction projects in the basin, and to administer a grant program to facilitate the implementation of those activities. This presentation will provide an update on the status of the working group, the action plan, and activities undertaken to identify toxic reduction priorities in the basin.